Unsupervised Learning: Dimension Reduction

Why Dimension Reduction?

For Big-Data:

- Data visualization becomes very difficult! (Cannot draw 2D scatterplots between all pairs of features).
- Big-Data often has a high degrees of redundancy. (i.e. correlation among features).
- Many features may be uninformative for the particular problem under study (noise features).
- Dimension reduction ideally allows us retain information on most important features of the data, while reducing noise and simplifying visualization & analysis.

What is Dimension Reduction?

- Map the data into a new low-dimensional space where important characteristics of the data are preserved.
- The new space often gives a (linear or non-linear) transformation of the original data.
- Visualization and analysis (clustering/prediction/...) is then performed in the new space.
- In many cases, (especially for non-linear transformations) interpretation becomes difficult.

Principal Components Analysis (PCA)

PCA

Set-up:

• Data matrix: $X_{n \times p}$, n observations and p features.

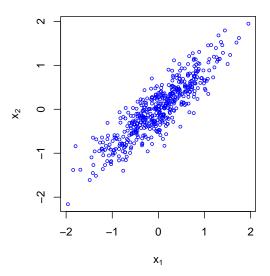
Idea:

- Not all p features are needed (much redundant info).
- Find low-dimensional representations that capture most of the variation in the data.

Uses:

- Ubiquitously used Dimension reduction, data visualization, pattern recognition, exploratory analysis, etc.
- "Best" linear dimension reduction possible.

Question: What is a good 1D representation of the data?



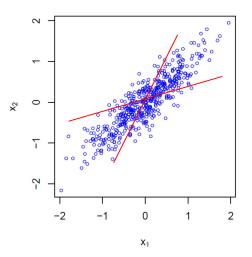
Some Possibilities:

- Use one of the variables (e.g. x_1).
- Better idea: use a linear combination of the variables (i.e. a weighted average).

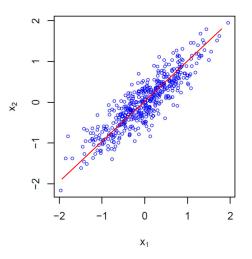
$$z_1 = v_1 x_1 + v_2 x_2 = v^T X$$

How to choose the weights $(v_1 \text{ and } v_2)$?

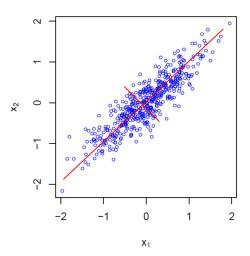
Many possibilities, but which one is a good choice?

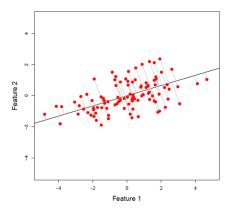


Find line that maximizes the variance of the data projected onto the line:



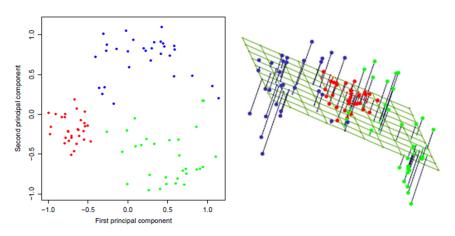
Subsequent components orthogonal (perpendicular).





- PCA minimizes orthogonal projection onto line: $Z = v_1x_1 + v_2x_2$.
- Slope of line = v_2/v_1 (if features centered).
- Note: Not same as OLS which minimizes projection of y onto x!

3D Projection onto a Hyperplane:



PCA Criterion - PC 1 (Population):

where $\Sigma = \operatorname{Cov}(X)$.

• Finds linear combination of features that maximizes the variance.

PCA Criterion - PC k (Population):

$$\underset{\mathsf{v}_k}{\operatorname{maximize}} \ \ \mathsf{v}_k^T \, \Sigma \, \mathsf{v}_k \ \ \text{subject to} \ || \, \mathsf{v}_k \, ||_2 = 1 \, \& \ \mathsf{v}_k^T \, \mathsf{v}_j = 0 \, \, \forall \, j < k.$$

- Subsequent linear combinations are orthogonal to previous combinations.
- Uncorrelated.

PCA Criterion - Sample Version:

$$\underset{\mathsf{v}_1, \ldots, \mathsf{v}_K}{\operatorname{maximize}} \ \mathsf{v}_k^T \mathsf{X}^T \mathsf{X} \mathsf{v}_k \ \text{subject to } ||\mathsf{v}_k||_2 = 1 \ \& \ \mathsf{v}_k^T \mathsf{v}_j = 0 \ \forall \ j < k.$$

Replaces Σ with estimate $X^T X / n$.

Solution: Eigenvalue decomposition of X^T X. (eigen() in R)

Equivalent PCA Criterion:

• Finds left and right projection that maximize variance.

Solution: Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) of X. (svd() in R)

PCA - Parts of the Solution

SVD:
$$X_{n \times p} = U_{n \times n} D_{n \times p} V_{p \times p}^T$$

- Singular vectors: (left) U and (right) V.
 - ▶ Orthonormal $U^T U = I$ and $V^T V = I$.
- Singular values: Diagonals of D.
 - ▶ $d_1 \ge d_2 \ge ... \ge d_r$ where r = rank(X).

SVD Solution to PCA:

- PCs: Z = XV or Z = UD. (U are un-scaled PCs).
 - ightharpoonup $z_k = X v_k k^{th} PC.$
 - ightharpoonup $z_1 \dots z_K$ gives best K-dimensional projection of the data.
- PC Loadings: V.
 - \triangleright v_k k^{th} PC loading (feature weights).

PCA - Properties

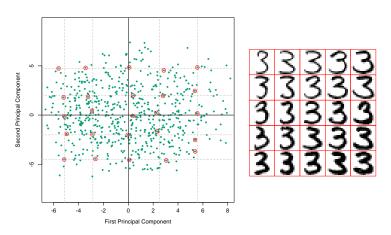
- Unique.
 - ▶ U and V unique up to a sign change.
 - D unique.
- Nested, Ordered components.
 - $d_1 > d_2 > \dots d_p$.
- Orthogonal.
 - U and V orthogonal.
- Global Solution.

PCA - Pattern Recognition

- ullet u₁ first column of U encodes first major pattern in observation space.
- v₁ first column of V encodes the associated first pattern in feature space.
- d_1 gives strength of first pattern.
- Subsequent patterns are uncorrelated to first pattern (i.e. orthogonal).
- $X \approx \sum_{k=1}^{K} d_k u_k v_k^T$ data is comprised of a series of patterns.

PCA - Pattern Recognition

Patterns in observation space:



PCA - Pattern Recognition

Patterns in feature space:









Breakout Discussion

- What pattern does the first PC find?
- What pattern does the second PC find?
- Questions?

PCA - Data Visualization

PC Scatterplots:

- Problem: Can't visualize
- Solution: Plot u₁ vs. u₂ and so forth.
- Advantages:
 - Dramatically reduces number of 2D scatterplots to visualize.
 - ► Focuses on patterns with most variance.

PC Loadings Plots:

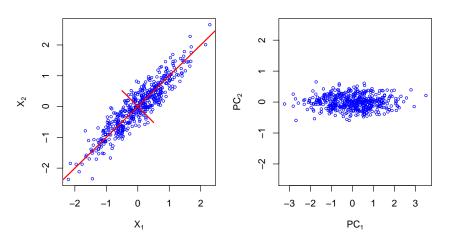
- Scatterplots of v₁ vs. v₂.
- Visualizations of v_k .

Biplot:

• Scatterplot of PC 1 vs. PC 2 with loadings of v_1 vs. v_2 overlaid.

PCA - Data Visualization

Scatterplots:



 Plotting Scatterplot PCs roughly equivalent to rotating axes of original plot.

Best low-rank approximation to the data:

$$\underset{\tilde{X}}{\operatorname{minimize}} \ || \, X - \tilde{X} ||_F^2 \ \operatorname{subject to \ rank}(\tilde{X}) = K$$

Solution: $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \sum_{k=1}^K d_k \, \mathbf{u}_k \, \mathbf{v}_k^T$ - SVD / PCA solution!

- PCA also finds best data compression to minimize reconstruction error.
- PCA yields "best" linear dimension reduction possible!

How much variance is explained? (i.e. extent of dimension reduction)

• Variance explained by k^{th} PC:

$$d_k^2 = \mathbf{v}_k^T \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \mathbf{v}_k.$$

Total variance of data:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p} d_k^2.$$

• Proportion of variance explained by k^{th} PC:

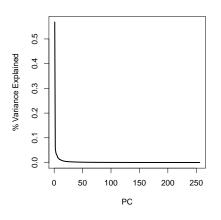
$$d_k^2/\sum_{k=1}^p d_k^2.$$

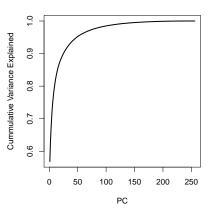
• Cumulative variance explained by first *r* PCs:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{r} d_k^2 / \sum_{k=1}^{p} d_k^2.$$

(Extent of dimension reduction achieve by first r PC projections.)

Screeplot:





How to choose K?

- Elbow in screeplot.
- Take K that explains at least 90% (95%, 99%, etc.) variance.
- More sophisticated:
 - Cross-Validation done internally.
 - Validation via matrix completion.
 - Nuclear norm penalties.

PCA - Center and Scale?

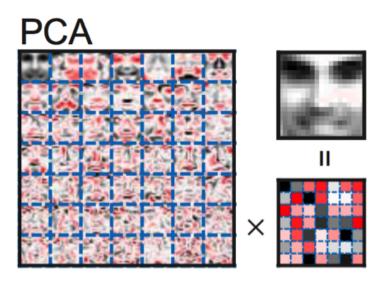
- Typically, one should center features (i.e. columns of X).
 - Maximizing variance interpretation (assumes multivariate Gaussian model).
- Scaling changes PCA solution.
 - ► Features with large scale contribute more to variance, have large PC loadings.

General Suggestions:

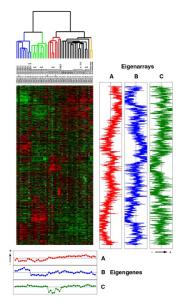
- Scale if features measured differently. (Example US college data).
- Don't scale if features measured in same way & scale has meaning.
 (Example gene expression data).

PCA - Applications

"EigenImages" or "EigenFaces"



PCA - Applications



PCA - Summary

Strengths:

- "Best" linear dimension reduction.
- Interpretation:
 - Ordered / orthogonal components.
 - Unique, global solution.
- Data visualization.
- Pattern recognition.
- Others?

Weaknesses:

- Non-linear patterns.
- Others?

PCA - Best Practices

When someone gives you a data matrix ...

Apply PCA first!

Breakout Discussion

Quick Quiz (T/F):

- You should always center and scale before applying PCA.
- PCA will perform poorly if your data doesn't lie on a line.
- You can only visualize the first two PCs.
- PCA only finds patterns amongst the observations.
- PC i always contains a more important pattern than PC i + 1.

Discussion:

- How will you use PCA for your work?
- Questions?

PCA Extensions

Sparse PCA

Motivation:

- When p >> n, many features irrelevant.
- PCA can perform poorly.

Idea:

- Sparsity in V: zero out irrelevant features from PC loadings.
- Advantage: Find important features that contribute to major patterns in the data.

How?

- Typically, optimize PCA criterion with sparsity-encouraging penalty of V.
- Many methods active area of research!

In R: SPC in PMA package.

Functional PCA

Motivation:

• Times series, ordered data, spatial data.

Idea:

- Want PC loadings to be smooth (vary continuously) over time or space.
- Advantage: Improve interpretation.

How?

- Typically, optimize PCA criterion with a penalty that encourages smoothness of V over time or space.
- Many methods for both functional data (data in the from of curves) and discretely-sampled functional data (e.g. discrete time points or specific locations).

In R: package fpca.

Kernel PCA

Motivation:

Non-linear patterns.

Idea:

- Embed inner product distances $(x_i^T x_{i'})$ in a higher-dimensional "kernel" space, $k(x_i, x_{i'})$.
- Kernel examples:
 - Radial: $k(x_i, x_{i'}) = e^{||x_i x_{i'}||_2^2/2\sigma^2}$.
 - ▶ Polynomial: $k(x_i, x_{i'}) = (cx_i^T x_{i'} + 1)^d$.
- Kernel Matrix: $K_{n\times n}: K_{ii'} = k(x_i, x_{i'}).$
 - Idea: K a non-linear distance matrix.
- Find major non-linear patterns by performing PCA on K:

$$K = U D^2 U^T$$



Supervised Dimension Reduction

Partial Least Squares:

 Best dimension reduction of cross-covariance between X and Y such that factors are orthogonal to X.

Canonical Correlations Analysis:

 Best dimension reduction of cross-covariance between X and Y such that bi-projection is orthogonal to X or Y.

Linear Discriminant Analysis (classification):

 Best dimension reduction of between class covariance matrix relative to within class covariance. Non-Negative Matrix Factorization (NMF)

NMF

Idea: $X_{n \times p} \approx W_{n \times K} H_{K \times p} = \sum_{k=1}^{K} W_{:,k} H_{k,:}$ with K << p.

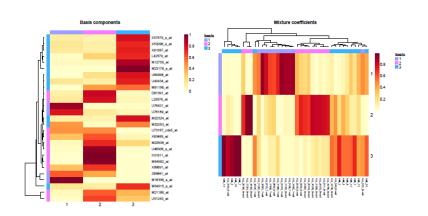
- $X \ge 0$ non-negative data matrix.
- W \geq 0 non-negative observation factors; often sparse (Basis Factors).
 - $W_{:,k} \ge 0$ k^{th} observation factor.
- $H_{kj} \ge 0$ non-negative feature factors; often sparse (Mixture Factors).
 - ▶ $H_{k,:} \ge 0$ mixture of features that comprise the k^{th} factor.

Like PCA except finds patterns with same direction of correlation.

4□▶
4□▶
4□▶
4□▶
4□▶
4□▶
4□▶
4□▶
4□▶
4□▶
4□▶

41 / 82

NMF



NMF Interpretation

Topic Modeling:

- X a matrix of news articles (rows) by words (columns) whose entries are word counts.
 - ► $X \approx \sum_{k=1}^{K} W_{:,k} H_{k,:}$ sum of topics.
 - $X_{ij} = W_{i,:}^T H_{:,j}^T = \sum_{k=1}^K W_{ik} H_{kj}.$
- Topic k: Outer-product of k^{th} column of W (W_{:,k}) and k^{th} row of H (H_{k,:}).
 - ► E.g. Covid-19.
- $H_{k,:}$ non-zeros- words contributing to topic k.
 - ► E.g. virus, hospitalizations, cases, deaths, masks, testing etc.
- W_{:,k} non-zeros news articles belonging to topic k.
 - ► E.g. "Virus surge visible across Texas: The tsunami is here" (Washington Post).



NMF Criterion - Continuous Data

$$\label{eq:continuity} \begin{split} & \underset{\mathsf{W},\mathsf{H}}{\text{minimize}} & ||\,\mathsf{X} - \mathsf{W}\,\mathsf{H}\,||_F^2 \\ & \text{subject to} & \mathsf{W}_{ik} \geq 0 \;\&\,\mathsf{H}_{kj} \geq 0 \end{split}$$

(PCA criterion except with non-negativity constraints.)
Algorithm Updates: (Alternating Non-negative Least Squares)

$$\hat{W} = \left(X H^T (H^T H)^{-1}\right)_+$$

$$\hat{H} = \left((W^T W)^{-1} W^T X\right)_+$$

Local Solution.

NMF Criterion - Count Data

$$\label{eq:minimize} \begin{aligned} & \underset{\mathsf{W},\mathsf{H}}{\text{minimize}} & & \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{p} \left[\mathsf{X}_{ij} \log(\mathsf{W}_{i} \, \mathsf{H}_{j}) - \mathsf{W}_{i} \, \mathsf{H}_{j} \right] \\ & \text{subject to} & & \mathsf{W}_{ik} \geq 0 \, \, \& \, \mathsf{H}_{kj} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm Updates:

$$\hat{W}_{ik} = \hat{W}_{ik} \left(\frac{\sum_{j=1}^{p} \hat{H}_{kj} X_{ij} / \hat{W}_{i}^{T} \hat{H}_{j}}{\sum_{j=1}^{p} \hat{H}_{kj}} \right)$$

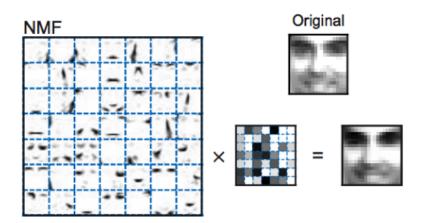
$$\hat{H}_{kj} = \hat{H}_{kj} \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{W}_{ik} X_{ij} / \hat{W}_{i}^{T} \hat{H}_{j}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{W}_{ik}} \right)$$

Local solution.

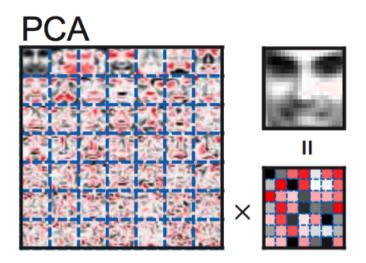
NMF - Uses

- Dimension Reduction / Pattern Recognition.
 - Similar to PCA (e.g. component scatterplots) except that patterns of correlation found in the same direction.
- Archetypal Analysis.
 - Caricatures (segments; contrastive categorization) vs. Prototypes (averages).
- Soft-clustering.
 - Discussed Next Lecture!

NMF - Archetypal Analysis



NMF - Archetypal Analysis



PCA vs. NMF

Similarities:

- Linear Dimension Reduction.
- Interpretation.

Differences:

- Factors are unordered.
- Factors NOT orthogonal.
- \bullet Changing K can fundamentally change factors.
- Non-unique, non-global solution.
- Depends on initialization. (Run several times and take the best).

Choosing K

Choice depends on goal:

- Dimension Reduction:
 - Residual sums of squares (or dispersion) Screeplot.
- Clustering:
 - Consensus, silhouette, etc. (Discussed next lecture!).
- Archetypal Analysis:
 - Sparsity, factor purity, etc.

NMF - Summary

Strengths:

- Interpretation (often more appealing than PCA!).
- Applications Clustering & Archetypal Analysis.
- Pattern Recognition.
- Others?

Weaknesses:

- ullet Local solutions that depend strongly on K.
- Others?

In R: NMF package.

Independent Components Analysis (ICA)

ICA

Pre-processing Step: Reduce $X_{n \times p}$ to $\tilde{X}_{K \times p}$ with K < n # independent sources. (Typically via PCA!)

Idea: $\tilde{X}_{K \times p} \approx A_{K \times K} S_{K \times p}$.

- Assumption: \tilde{X} a matrix of K scrambled independent signals.
- $A_{K \times K}$ Mixing Matrix denotes how signals are scrambled to form sources in data.
- $S_{K \times p}$ Signal Matrix each row of S is an independent signal.

PCA finds uncorrelated, but not independent signals.

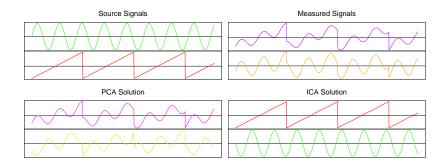


ICA Uses

- Blind Source Separation.
 - ▶ Assume *K* independent signals got scrambled, but record *K* scrambled versions of the signal.
 - Cocktail Party Problem.
- ② Denoising.
 - Noise independent from true signals.

ICA vs. PCA

Blind Source Separation:



ICA Algorithms

Fast ICA:

- Finds rotations of X that are "non-Gaussian".
- Uses non-Gaussian contrast functions:
 - $g(x) = x^4$.
 - g(x) = tanh(x).
- Generalization of projection pursuit.

Others:

Infomax (entropy).

Not Statistically Independent!

PCA vs. ICA

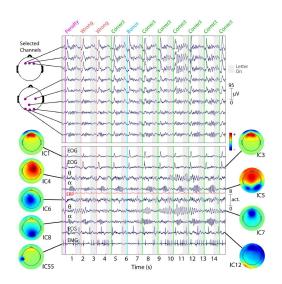
Similarities:

- Linear Dimension Reduction.
- Interpretation.

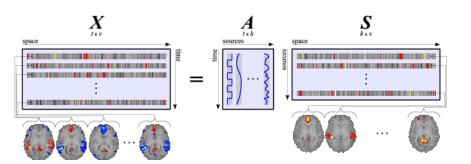
Differences:

- Factors are unordered.
- Factors NOT invariant same solution by applying a permutation.
- Factors NOT orthogonal.
- Changing K can fundamentally change factors.
- Non-unique.
- No optimization criterion to evaluate solution.

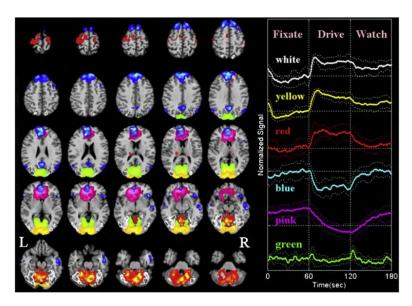
ICA Applications - EEG



ICA Applications - fMRI



ICA Applications - fMRI



ICA Summary

Strengths:

- Interpretation.
- Applications Blind Source Separation & Denoising.
- Others?

Weaknesses:

- Solutions that depend strongly on K.
- Solutions can be rotated.
- Others?

In R: fastICA package.

Multidimensional Scaling (MDS)

Multidimensional Scaling (MDS)

Idea:

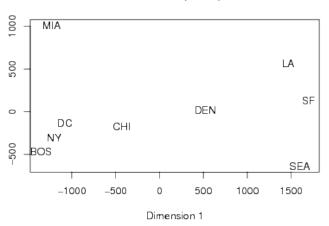
- Visually represent proximities (similarities or distances) between objects in a lower dimensional space.
- Input: Matrix of similarities or dissimilarities, $D_{n\times n}$ (don't need the data itself!).
- Goal: Find projections $(z_1, \dots z_K \text{ where } z \in \mathbb{R}^n)$ that preserve original distances in D in a lower dimensional space (K << n).
- 2 Types: Classical (Metric) MDS and Non-metric MDS.
- Non-linear dimension reduction.

Consider the distances between nine American cities:

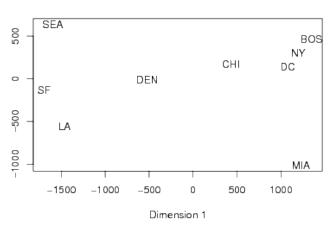
	BOS	CHI	DC	DEN	LA	MIA	NY	SEA	SF
BOS	0	963	429	1949	2979	1504	206	2976	3095
CHI	963	0	671	996	2054	1329	802	2013	2142
DC	429	671	0	1616	2631	1075	233	2684	2799
DEN	1949	996	1616	0	1059	2037	1771	1307	1235
LA	2979	2054	2631	1059	0	2687	2786	1131	379
MIA	1504	1329	1075	2037	2687	0	1308	3273	3053
NY	206	802	233	1771	2786	1308	0	2815	2934
SEA	2976	2013	2684	1307	1131	3273	2815	0	808
SF	3095	2142	2799	1235	379	3053	2934	808	0

Can we represent these cities in a 2D space like a map?

cmdscale(cities)



cmdscale(cities)





Classical (Metric) MDS

- Idea: Perform PCA (eigenvalue decomposition) on the doubly centered distance matrix, D.
 - ▶ $H = I \frac{1}{n}11^T$ is the centering matrix.
 - \triangleright $z_1, \dots z_K$ are the top K PCs of HDH.
- Fact: When D is the matrix of Euclidean distances, classical MDS is equivalent to PCA.
 - Differences for other distance metrics.

In R: cmdscale.

Non-Metric MDS

 Idea: Optimize stress function that keeps distances in Z close to that of D.

Stress Functions:

Least squares or Kruskal-Shephard Scaling:

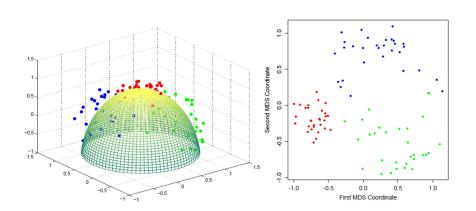
$$S_D(z_1, z_2, ..., z_K) = \sqrt{\sum_{i \neq i'} (d_{ii'} - || z_i - z_{i'} ||)^2}.$$

Sammon mapping: preserve smaller pairwise distances

$$\sum_{i \neq i'} \frac{(d_{ii'} - || z_i - z_{i'} ||^2)}{d_{ii'}}.$$

• Shepard-Kruskal nonmetric scaling ($\theta(\cdot)$: an increasing function):

$$\frac{\sum_{ii'} [\theta(||z_i - z_{i'}||) - d_{ii'}]^2}{\sum_{ii'} d_{ii'}^2}.$$



MDS Properties

- Data not needed only dissimilarities.
- Choosing K:
 - Scree plot (like PCA).
 - Shepard Diagram plot proximities against distances in Z.
- Interpreting MDS maps:
 - Axes and orientation arbitrary.
 - Can be rotated.
 - Only relative locations important.
 - Typically looks for objects close in the MDS map.

MDS vs. PCA

Similarities:

Dimension reduction for visualization.

Differences:

- Non-linear vs. Linear.
- Local solution & arbitrary map.
- Non-unique & local solution.
- Only yields visualization / patterns among n objects.

MDS - Summary

Strengths:

- Visualizing proximities.
- Only need dissimilarities.
- Others?

Weaknesses:

- Arbitrary maps.
- Which stress function?
- High-dimensional settings? (p >> n more features than objects)
- Others?

In R: dist; cmdscale - classical MDS; isoMDS - Kruskals's MDS and sammon in MASS package.

Neighbor Embeddings: tSNE & UMAP

Neighbor Embeddings

Idea:

- Find lower dimensional embedding that preserves relationships between "close neighbors".
- Non-linear dimension reduction (manifold learning).
- Useful for visualizations and clustering.
- Works well for high-dimensional data (p >> n).

t-Stochastic Neighbor Embedding (tSNE)

- Set up: Represent data, $x_1, \ldots x_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$, in a lower dimensional space, $z_1, \ldots z_n \in \mathbb{R}^k$ where k << p (usually k=2).
- Data Similarity (normalized Gaussian kernel):

$$p_{ij} = \frac{p_{j|i} + p_{i|j}}{2}, \quad p_{j|i} = \frac{\exp\left(-(x_i - x_j)^2 / 2\sigma_i^2\right)}{\sum_{k \neq i} \exp\left(-(x_i - x_k)^2 / 2\sigma_i^2\right)}$$

Lower-Dimensional Similarity (normalized t/Cauchy kernel):

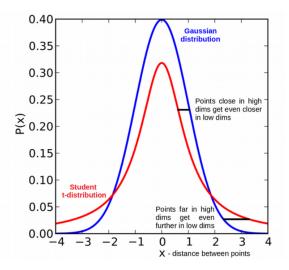
$$q(z_i, z_j) = \frac{g(|z_i - z_j|)}{\sum_{k \neq i} g(|z_i - z_k|)}, \quad g(z) = \frac{1}{1 + z^2}.$$

• Minimize Kullback-Leibler divergence:

$$\underset{z_1, z_2, \dots z_n}{\text{minimize}} \quad \sum_{i, j} p_{ij} \log \left(\frac{p_{ij}}{q(z_i, z_j)} \right)$$

• Gradient descent (with random initialization).

t-Stochastic Neighbor Embedding (tSNE)



UMAP

Similar to tSNE, but with a few differences:

Data Similarity (Gaussian kernel, general distances):

$$p_{ij} = p_{i|j} + p_{j|i} - p_{i|j}p_{j|i}, \quad p_{i|j} = \exp(-d(x_i, x_j)/\sigma_i).$$

• Lower-Dimensional Similarity (generalized Cauchy kernel):

$$q(z_i, z_j) = \frac{1}{1 + a(z_i - z_j)^{2b}}, \quad a > 1, b < 1 \text{ (thicker tails)}.$$

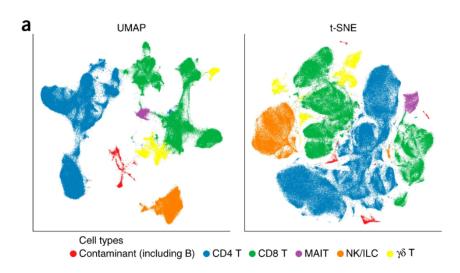
Minimize cross-entropy:

$$\underset{z_1,z_2,...z_n}{\text{minimize}} \quad \sum_{i,j} p_{ij} \log \left(\frac{p_{ij}}{q(z_i,z_j)} \right) + (1-p_{ij}) \log \left(\frac{1-p_{ij}}{1-q(z_i,z_j)} \right)$$

• Stochastic gradient descent with spectral clustering initialization.

Overall: UMAP better preserves global structures & more tightly packs close neighbors.

tSNE & UMAP - Applications



Clustering Cell Types in Single Cell RNA-seq.

tSNE & UMAP - Summary

Strengths:

- Data visualization.
- Clustering.
- Non-linear dimension reduction.
- Preserves relationships between close neighbors.

Weaknesses:

- Local, non-unique solutions.
- Patterns only amongst observations.
- Others?

Dimension Reduction & Visualization Wrap-Up

Techniques Covered:

- PCA.
- NMF.
- ICA.
- MDS.
- SNE tSNE & UMAP.

Breakout Discussion

Questions:

- Which techniques are useful for finding patterns amongst observations
 AND features? Just observations?
- List some advantages of PCA over MDS / tSNE / UMAP. List some disadvantages.
- When would you want use each of the techniques?
- Why do we need so many dimension reduction and visualization techniques?
- If you had new (test) data, how would you use this to validate the patterns you discovered?